

Christmas – 2016

During this holiday season and throughout the year...

Let's learn from the November 2016 election that we thought was about issues
...like our planet...and peace and justice...and eradicating poverty
...like keeping Wall Street under control...and treating women with respect
...and providing postsecondary education for our young

people

because the future success of our nation depends on it.
...and recognizing that it was our nation's destruction of Iraq that created ISIS
...and that welcoming immigrants not building walls is what America does
Rather than being focused on these things America decided to try a different route.
It is tempting to sit back and see how that works. Let's not do
that.

Let's bring peace and justice into our lives and whomever we can touch ...
What if we started the change process in our hearts, our homes and our neighborhoods.
Is it possible that it could spread to our cities, nation and the
planet?

What if we tried it?
Let peace and justice begin with me

Would the USA draw a line in the sand and save the families in Aleppo
...if they were white, Lutheran and spoke English...
I look forward to saying, "Welcome to the United States" to persons from the Middle East
and Africa.
Maybe giving a smile to a stranger on the street will be the only kind gesture they receive
today.

Today let's not say anything negative about anyone...tomorrow either.
Maybe loving your neighbor is actually an idea that could work.

Let's inform ourselves with a variety of news sources.
And let's read a book that inspires. Write a few paragraphs. Read a poem.
Let us be more gentle...especially men.

I believe that the Creator did not make mistakes.
That it is natural for some members of the same sex to love each other
Francis said, "Who am I to judge?"
Are Catholic women worthy to lead and minister as priests...
just as are Hebrew and Protestant women?
Francis said that will never happen. Pray that he listens to the Spirit.

Every child in the world is innocent and beautiful.
Read to them, love them, protect them...be their village.
Give to the Mn Reading Corps so they can help children learn to read to their mom's
and change her tears to smiles of joy
Say "thank you" to teachers.

Gaze at the stars on a clear winter night.
Marvel at the beauty of the universe.
We are not an observer of the universe...we are a part of that awesome beauty.
May you have great joy in your life today...and tomorrow.

Together let us improve the lives of each other in 2017...
....Bob Wedl